

and that there must be a demand, produced by a desire, to occasion this increase,—we may well question the above quotation. We make the remark because we must not lose sight of evils if we wish to combat them. However, *The Aurora* upon the whole is good, and a credit to Albert College.

*Queen's College Journal*, of Kingston, is hardly up to the standard, especially in appearance.

Only the first number of the *Galt Collegiate Times* has reached our *sanctum*.

In this connection we may notice the *Ontario Teacher*. It is ably edited, and, especially to teachers, very interesting and profitable. It supplies a want long felt by teachers, and one that never has, and, under existing circumstances, never can be supplied by the *Journal of Education*. Its criticisms upon some of the textbooks of our public schools, especially "Christian Morals," "Agricultural Chemistry," and "Davidson's Animal Kingdom," we heartily endorse. The public voice should not cease to be heard until all such works are banished from our schools.

Turning to our exchanges from over the lines, we find that the discussion of the co-education question has in many instances given place to experiment. We are gratified to learn that, wherever women have been admitted upon equal terms, they have taken a standing if anything above the average, have not gratified many who opposed this innovation, by breaking down in health, and have in all cases raised the tone of the institutions. This is as we expected.

The principle theme of discussion at present is Inter-collegiate Contests. The thoroughly independent character of the Colleges in the States—they having no fixed standard, and hence no possible means of estimating the comparative value of a title from any one of them—has long been felt to be a disadvantage. The desire to remedy this has given rise to two movements: a convention, if such it may be called, of professors from several Colleges, and the attempt by the students to establish what they term Inter-collegiate Contests. From the first we believe but little good has been derived. While some are discussing the pros and cons of the second, others are preparing to practically test its utility. In the East, arrangements have been made for "a contest in Oratory," to take place in New York, January, 1875. The West will also hold one at Galesbury, Ill. According to the programmes, there will be valuable prizes offered to competitors from the different Colleges, not only in oratory, but in essay writing. Though no arrangements have thus far been made, yet we understand that they will in time establish a competition in the many branches of a liberal education. If it extend thus far, it may in future become a great central standard to mark degrees of excellency in scholarship. Then its awards would become valuable indeed, and the titles it confers would supersede those of many Colleges whose standards are now dubious.